NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RONALD J. TENPAS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

April 26, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on April 20, 2005, <u>ANDRE MONROE</u>, a/k/a "Dre," age 28, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. MONROE, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment, charging him with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, was sentenced to 192 months' imprisonment, 5 years supervised release, and was fined \$200.

The investigation established that from at least June 1993 through August 1994, MONROE was involved with others in the distribution of crack cocaine in the Murphysboro, Illinois, area. During that time, MONROE and co-defendants COREY ROBINSON and MICHAEL SCOTT were transporting crack cocaine from East St. Louis to Murphysboro for distribution. MONROE remained a fugitive in this case from 1994 until his arrest in April 2003. MONROE received an enhanced sentence based on his possession of a firearm during the crack cocaine conspiracy and based on his obstruction of justice. Co-defendants ROBINSON and SCOTT are currently serving sentences of 211 months' imprisonment and 181 months' imprisonment, respectively, for their involvement in the drug offense.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Metropolitan Enforcement Group, and United States Marshal's Service. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.